

ABSTRACT

The physical movement of reticles and solder bump masks within a wafer processing plant are continually tracked and documented in a historical database for the useful life of the reticles or masks. In an example embodiment of the mask tracking method, the method includes moving the masks from one location to another in mask pods. In addition, a mask data set is generated for each mask composed of a mask identification code cross-referenced to a pod identification code and the mask data sets are processed by a computer arrangement. The mask data sets are then updated in the computer arrangement to include a facility location identification code as each mask moves to a subsequent location during wafer processing. The present invention provides the advantage that wafer lots and reticles can be matched to an event on the processing line and stored as data for later review and analysis.

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